Amateur Computer Group of New Jersey NEWS

ACGNJ Planning Meeting Mini-Report

On Friday, August 23rd, eight members were present: Michael Redlich, Wendy Bell, Brenda Bell, Malthi Masurekar, John Raff, Dave McRitchie, Don McBride, and Mike Reagan.

Twenty suggestions for meeting topics were proposed, and a tentative 2013-2014 calendar was laid out. However, one substitution has already been made; and (judging by our previous years' experiences) it's practically inevitable that more adjustments will have to be made as we go along.

The schedule has been posted on our club website at:

http://www.acgnj.org/pm/ACGNJ%202013-2014%20Speaking%20Schedule%202.html

Dinner was Chicken Francaise from Maria's. We all had a great time.

ACGNJ Announcements

Happy Halloween!

Main Meeting
Friday, October 4th, 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Scheduled Topic: Windows 8 Apps

Window Pains Meeting
Friday, October 18th, 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Scheduled Topic: Programming Languages Shootout

ACGNJ

http://www.acgnj.org

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ACGNJ Meetings

For the very latest news on ACGNJ meetings, please visit the ACGNJ Website (*www.acgnj.org*).

Board of Directors Meeting: October 1, 7:00 PM
Mike Redlich (president (at) acgnj.org)

Main Meeting: Friday, October 4. 8:00 PM
Mike Redlich (president (at) acgnj.org)

Lunics (Linux/UNIX): Monday, October 7, 8:00 PM
Andreas Meyer (lunics (at) acgnj.org)

Java: Tuesday, October 8, 7:30 PM
Mike Redlich (mike (at) redlich.net)

Mobile Devices: Wednesday, October 9, 7:30 PM
Brenda Bell (mobdevsig (at) acgnj.org)

Investing: Thursday, October 10, 8:00 PM
Jim Cooper (jim (at) thecoopers.org).

NJ Gamers: Friday, October 11, **6**:00 PM
Gregg McCarthy (greggmajestic (at) gmail.com)

Layman's Forum: Monday, October 14, 8:00 PM
Matt Skoda (som359 (at) gmail.com)

Hardware Workshop: Monday, October 14, 8 PM
Mike Reagan (hardware (at) acgnj.org)

C/C++: Tuesday, October 15, 7:30 PM
Bruce Arnold (barnold (at) ieee.org)

Window Pains: Friday, October 18, 8:00 PM
John Raff (john (at) jraff.com)

Web Browser: Monday, October 21, 7:30 PM
David McRitchie (firefox (at) acgnj.org)

Board of Directors Meeting: October 29, 7:00 PM
Mike Redlich (president (at) acgnj.org)

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are at the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, 1916 Bartle Ave, Scotch Plains, New Jersey. Directions and map on back page. 🖥

In This Issue

Officers, Directors and Leaders

President	Mike Redlich	(908) 246-0410	Director Emeritus	Sol Libes	(609) 520-9024
Vice President	Wendy Bell		Through 2013	Gregg McCarthy	
Treasurer	Malthi Masurekar	(732) 560-1534		John Raff	(973) 533-0664
Secretary	Brenda Bell			Frank Warren	(908) 756-1681
Past President	Evan Williams	(908) 359-8070		(Open)	
			Through 2014	Bob Hawes	
Special Interest Groups				David McRitchie	
C Languages	Bruce Arnold	(908) 735-7898		Michael Reagan	
Genealogy	Frank Warren	(908) 756-1681		(Open)	
Hardware	Mike Reagan		**Standing Committees**		
Investing	Jim Cooper		APCUG Rep.	Frank Warren	(908) 756-1681
Java	Michael Redlich	(908) 246-0410	Facilities	John Raff	(973) 533-0664
Layman's Forum	Matthew Skoda	(908) 359-8842	Financial	Evan Williams	(908) 359-8070
LUNICS	Andreas Meyer		Historian	Lenny Thomas	
Mobile Devices	Brenda Bell		Membership	Bob Hawes	
NJ Gamers	Gregg McCarthy		Newsletter	Bob Hawes	
Web Browser	David McRitchie		Publicity	Gregg McCarthy	
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ACGNJ News

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Submissions: Articles, reviews, cartoons, illustrations. Most common formats are acceptable. Graphics embedded in the document must also be sent as separate files. E-mail submissions to newsletter@acgnj.org preferred. **Always confirm**. Date review and include name of word processor used, your name, address and phone and name, address and phone of manufacturer, if available.

Tips for reviewers: Why does anyone need it? Why did you like it or hate it? Ease (or difficulty) of installation, learning and use. Would you pay for it?

Advertising: Non-commercial announcements from members are free. Commercial ads 15 cents per word, $5 minimum. Camera ready display ads: Full page (7 x 10 inches) $150, two-thirds page (4.5 x 10) $115, half-page $85, one-third $57, quarter $50, eighth $30. Discount 10% on 3 or more consecutive insertions. Enclose payment.

Publication Exchange: Other computer user groups are invited to send a subscription to ACGNJ at the address below. We will respond in kind.

Address Changes should be e-mailed to *membership@acgnj.org* or sent to ACGNJ at the address below.

Membership: Regular (now includes *all* family members who reside at the same address): 1 year $25, 2 years $40, 3 years $55. Student: 1 year $20. Senior Citizen (over 65): 1 year $20, 3 years $45. Send name, address and payment to ACGNJ, PO Box 135, Scotch Plains NJ 07076.

Typographic Note: This ACGNJ News was produced using Scribus 1.3.3.13. Font families used are Times New Roman (TT) for body text, Arial (TT) for headlines.

President's Note
Michael P. Redlich, ACGNJ
October 2013
2013 ACGNJ Planning Meeting Summary

On August 23, 2013, ACGNJ held its annual Planning Meeting. As you may already be aware, the intent of this meeting is to brainstorm topics for Main and Window Pains meetings. Dinner was provided and the only thing was asked in return was to suggest two topics for these meetings.

I would like to highlight some of the topics that were chosen and scheduled over the next few months. But first, since this is the October edition of the newsletter, I would like to summarize the meetings from September.

On September 6, the Main Meeting topic was *"The New ACGNJ Web Site."* The Web Site Redesign Subcommittee has been working on a fresh, new look for the ACGNJ web site and will incorporate responsive design. A web site with such a responsive design will automatically render itself properly on the device on which it is being viewed. This meeting was an opportunity for members to suggest what content they would like to see on the newly redesigned ACGNJ web site.

On September 20, we welcomed Charley Prince from Avast! Software who made a wonderful and informative presentation entitled, *"PC & Internet Security."* Charley defined all of the various types of malware and numerous tips and tricks on keeping your computer workstation safe.

Now here's the list of what you can expect over the next several months:

• October 4, 2013: We will welcome David Isbitski from Microsoft who will present *"Windows 8 Apps."*
• October 18, 2013: The *"Programming Languages Shootout"* has been tentatively scheduled (based on participants' availability). This is a fun event as presenters give a short presentation on their favorite programming language and demonstrate why it might be better than others. Stay tuned for

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updates on this event.
• November 1, 2013: Our own Barry Burd will present *"Google Glass."*
• November 15, 2013: Our own Brenda Bell will present *"Internet Sports TV."*
• December 6, 2013: Our *Annual Business Meeting* including election of officers will be held.
• December 20, 2013: We will hold our *Annual Holiday Party.*
• January 3, 2014: Brenda Bell makes another presentation entitled, *"There's an App for That."*
• January 17, 2014: The Microsoft Store in the Bridgewater Mall will present *"Windows 8.1, Haswell Chip and MakerBot Replicator 2 Desktop 3D Printer."*
• February 7, 2014: I will present *"Introduction to Meteor."*

• February 21, 2014: The Microsoft Store in the Bridgewater Mall will present *"Xbox 360, Xbox One, and Kinect."*
• March 7, 2014: Brenda Bell completes her Hat Trick of presentations with *"Mobile Medical Devices."*
• March 21, 2014: We will host a roundtable discussion on *"Vintage Computing Devices."*

Please note that the presentations by Microsoft will be held at the Microsoft Store in the Bridgewater Mall on those nights.

So, as you can see, we have an exciting lineup of presentations this season. The remaining topics will be scheduled for April, May, and June. As always, check the ACGNJ web site for the latest information and any unexpected changes that may occur.

I hope to see y'all at the meetings this season! 🖥

Which Witch Is Which?

For our October 2012 issue, I traveled back to my good old DOS desktop publishing days, and put a copy of my 1991 Full Moon Witch (left) on page 1. This month, for our October 2013 issue, I put a copy of my 1992 Full Moon Witch (right) on page 1. (For further details, see *Forgotten Secrets From The Ancient Past* in our August 2010 issue). Have a *safe* and Happy Halloween! 🖥

ACGNJ Investment Meeting SUMMARY (September 12th)

Philip Lees, ACGNJ

The meeting on Thursday (9/12/2013) did go ahead despite the downpours. We had 12 attendees, and a lot of questions and interaction in the meeting, which is welcomed.

Jim Cooper started with a presentation and discussion on Fibonacci Retracements and Extensions (Google "Fibonacci" for further interesting details). Eventually, a "Golden ratio" is determined and it appears in so many places in nature. Fibonacci ratios are also applied in trading to determine potential values of pullbacks ("Retracements") and/or potential target values of moves ("Extensions"). We looked at applying Fibonacci to some stocks, one of which was the Gold ETF, namely GLD.

In our break, we had pizza and soda, which seemed to be well liked.

To finish, Joanne Head did a presentation on the various criteria that she chooses to trade stock-splits that have been announced on companies that she likes. The charts of potential candidates were examined and discussed and, as usual, they are not specified here, only at the meeting.

We hope to see you at October's meeting, on **10/10/2013**. Thank you, Philip Lees. 💻

ACGNJ Logo History

John Raff, ACGNJ

Some information relevant to the ACGNJ logos. Way back when, the club got a hand scanner for evaluation. I volunteered to test it and write a report. I forget the name or type of the scanner, it was about 6 inches wide.

The first thing I scanned was some ACGNJ newsletter text to see how well it came out. It seemed to my untrained eye that it in fact did very well. I then used the output as input to a OCR program that came with the scanner. I wrote a report on just what was picked up properly and what was missed, incorrectly converted and such.

I specifically asked Barbara (the editor) to NOT edit the OCRed text, and sent it in for inclusion in the Newsletter. It got to Barb but never appeared in the Newsletter, some over the summer timing issue.

That is all preamble to what I did next. I had a mouse

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pad with the letters ACGNJ on it. I scanned it and made an image of it. I pushed the letters around and straightened them and tried to make a good logo of it. I made it a 2 color image so it would be really small, and not cause problems with slow servers nor internet speed. Today it would not matter.

Anyway I uploaded the image. I'm not sure what name I gave it.

The letters came from a Magnetic Ink font used on old paper checks so the bank could use OCR with a computer to read the routing number and account numbers from the check. Early attempts at automation. I showed it to several members, and one suggested putting a copyright symbol on it, so I did. Our club banners and the logo on our website use other versions of the Magnetic Ink fonts. *

So much for history. 💻

This is a screen shot of the very first ACGNJ logo to be used on our newsletter's front page (from the December 1996 issue). It's name is SS9612-G.png. (The G is for "Good"). It's the closest that I (Bob) could get to reproducing John's original logo.

This is acgnj2.png. It's used at the top of most of the pages on our club website.

* For additional historic and/or technical information, see:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magnetic_ink_character_recognition

The Ghost of "Why So Big?"

Bob Hawes, ACGNJ

Although I started writing this article in late June, it was always intended for our October 2013 Newsletter. In other words, our "Halloween Episode". Since it involves archive files, I was trying to come up with a silly/spooky title with the word "ZIP" in it; but then I thought of the title I'm actually using, and I just **couldn't** resist the temptation. My fate was sealed. I was doomed to make this article the **ninth** installment of my multi-part "bigness" saga, because it really **does** have a connection to one of the previous chapters.

Our connection comes from a few sentences that I wrote in *Uncle of "Why So Big?"*, when I was describing the creation of my then-newest "working directory", JULSEP13. (As of last month. the first eight installments stood as follows: *Why So Big?* in our December 2012 issue, *Son of "Why So Big?"* in January 2013, *Daughter of "Why So Big?"* in February 2013, *Niece of "Why So Big?"* in May 2013, *Nephew of "Why So Big?"* in June 2013, *Aunt of "Why So Big?"* in July 2013, *Uncle of "Why So Big?"* in August 2013, and *Cousin of "Why So Big?"* in September 2013).

What I said was: "All our previous 'working directories' also had a Sources subdirectory. This is where I keep all of my 'foreign imports' (articles written by other people)"; and: "Because I take files out of this subdirectory as I use them, Sources always contains only stuff that I **haven't** yet used. So each time I create a new 'working directory', I just copy this complete subdirectory into it; and that's what I did now, too". However, it takes a whole lot more effort than those sentences would imply to keep Sources "lean, mean, up to date, and in working order"; and **that's** what this article is about.

Now I have to get personal. In the period from May 2012 to May 2013, I underwent two relatively minor surgeries on my right foot, and two relatively **major** surgeries on my left foot; but **all** four operations involved removing infected pieces of bone, cartilage, and/or tendons; and, in one way or another, I'm **still** recovering from all four of them today. As

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you might expect, I got way behind on the stuff I wanted to do for the club; and I'm trying to catch up as best I can. One of those things that I neglected involved the Sources subdirectory; and I've just gotten back to working on it now.

But first, one more digression: You might think that it's naughty of me to graft this article (concerned mainly with recording and tracking the contents of ZIP files) onto a multi-part saga concerned mainly with examining and comparing the sizes of newsletter PDF files. In fact, you might even say that it's downright **evil** of me to do it. Well, **I** say that my actions fit right in with the spirit of the times. After all, it's not Rabbit Season, Duck Season, or even Elmer Season. It's Halloween Season. (Memo to the Scary Sound Effects Department: Let's have some loud thunder claps in the background. Then, cue the eerie violin music from *Psycho*, and lay in a long sinister laugh on top).

OK. Let's get down to business. There's an ODF (**O**pen **D**ocument **F**ormat) text file in Sources, named 1208FIMP.odt, in which I previously kept track of my "**f**oreign **imp**orts". From the numbers in its name, you can tell that it was last updated in August of 2012. (Just about a year ago, now). It's been **so** badly neglected that I decided to keep it as it is (for reference); and instead made a new "tracking" file completely from scratch, using Linux based techniques. 1208FIMP.odt used the same design that I used when I was working under Windows (or even under DOS, for that matter). I made my new file using Linux/UNIX tools and methods. It's now called 1307ZIPS.odt, though I'll be renaming it later on (each month when I update it).

Currently (as I write this) there are 25 files measuring 49.7 MB in my sources subdirectory. Of them, 11 are ZIP archives, 2 are my tracking files (my new one and my old one). 4 are images that I might be able to use someday, and the remaining 8 are articles that I liked enough to extract, but which I haven't yet found a place for in an issue of our newsletter. Those articles will get priority as I assemble our next issue; but the task at hand right now is to get lists of the contents of those 11 ZIP

files, and copy them into my new tracking file.

As anybody who has been reading my articles for the past few years knows, I *firmly* believe in keeping my data and my operating systems on different hard disks. Currently, my data is stored on a 320 GB hard disk, spread across seven partitions, each about 43 GB or so in size. (At one time, I had a *really* good reason for this arrangement. Now, it doesn't matter that much anymore). The two Linux systems that I most often boot from are installed in two small IDE hard disks, each contained in a removable drive drawer (for easy swapping); and my backups (which are made separately for my operating systems and my data) are stored on two removable USB hard disks. (One measures 1 TB, and one measures 2 TB. I use them alternately).

Due to this practice, I've *never* had any need for the built-in data directories that are included in *all* distributions of Linux; but now I had to use one of them. So I opened up a Terminal window and I got the following command prompt:

bob@bob-main:~$

Because the topic of this article *isn't* "*Using The Linux/UNIX Command Line*", I *don't* intend to explain most of what I'm doing here. Maybe someday I'll actually be able to look into *Linux From Scratch*. **Then** I might do some articles about my experiences. Right now, though, I'll just write what's necessary to explain my actions. Anyway, I entered the **ls -1** command. (That's "dash one", *not* "dash lower case L", which has an entirely different function). I got the following results on screen:

bob@bob-main:~$ ls -1
Desktop
Documents
Downloads
examples.desktop
Music
Pictures
Public
Templates
Ubuntu One
Videos
bob@bob-main:~$

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(That **-1** is the "list **one** name per line " switch. If I'd just entered **ls**, I would have gotten a "compact" display, with all those names printed in sequence right *next* to each other, so they could be squeezed into just two or three lines on screen). Then I entered the **mkdir zipfiles** command. Afterwards, when I entered **ls -1** again, I got the following results:

bob@bob-main:~$ ls -1
Desktop
Documents
Downloads
examples.desktop
Music
Pictures
Public
Templates
Ubuntu One
Videos
zipfiles
bob@bob-main:~$

After that, I entered **cd zipfiles** and then **ls -1** again, and I got the following result:

bob@bob-main:~/zipfiles$ ls -1
bob@bob-main:~/zipfiles$

The absence of *anything* between the two command prompts indicates that the **ls -1** command *didn't* get any results at all. (Apparently, the original UNIX designers never felt the need for a "not found" type of message). In other words, my new zipfiles subdirectory is completely empty. That's as it should be. Next, I opened up my graphical file browser, and looked for the zipfiles subdirectory of the bob directory. It did, in fact, exist; and it was, in fact, empty. So far, so good.

Here's my plan: One at a time, in the graphical browser, I'll double-click on those eleven ZIP archives. That will open the Archive Manager, where I'll click on the Extract option. When the Extract window pops up, I'll click on bob in the left column, then on zipfiles in the center column, and then on the Extract button at the bottom. Then I'll switch back to the Terminal window, where I'll enter **ls -1** again; but this time, zipfiles *won't* be empty. Instead, it will contain a list of every file in the archive, each neatly

displayed on its own separate line.

Now, here's the magic part: That Terminal window is *mouse-aware*. I'll be able to use my mouse cursor to highlight only the text that I want to select. (In this case, my list of files). Then, I can use either the standard drop-down menu command (Edit > Copy), or the mysteriously (and possibly sinisterly) altered keyboard shortcut (Shift + Ctrl + C) to copy my highlighted text into the clipboard. After that, I can use either the standard Edit > Paste command or the standard Ctrl + V shortcut to paste my file list into my new tracking file (1307ZIPS.odt). Ta Da!

That was the plan, anyway. Here's what actually happened: Everything went perfectly. I just had to remember to manually delete the contents of zipfiles before I extracted the next archive. Which I always did. (Hah! I bet you thought I'd be describing some sort of disaster, didn't you? Well, Happy Halloween to you, too). Once all the filenames had been copied into 1307ZIPS.odt, it was a tedious but relatively straightforward task to identify and mark the ones that had already been used. If the information I

needed wasn't in 1208FIMP.odt, then I had to refer to each of the more recent newsletters individually; but once that task had been accomplished, any file that *isn't* yet marked in 1307ZIPS.odt is now fair game.

Here's the kicker: My old tracking file is eleven pages long, while my new tracking file is only six pages long. That's because 1208FIMP.odt contains *a lot* of extraneous verbiage. While no doubt interesting under some circumstances, this extra information just isn't needed for its assigned job. In fact, it often gets in the way. On the other hand, 1307ZIPS.odt only contains what it needs. As I said above, it's "lean and mean". That's why 1307ZIPS.odt is the wave of the future. (And look: I've just compared the sizes of two files, and I even answered the question "Why So Big?" for this particular case. How's that for an appropriate tie-in to my "bigness" saga).

One last detail. The Sources subdirectory of the APRJUN13 directory had three subdirectories of its own: USED4APR, USED4MAY, and USED4JUN. Those are where I transferred and entombed the

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source files for the articles that I published in those three issues. In *this* article's third paragraph, when I said that I'd copied that complete Sources subdirectory into my new "working directory", I meant every file in its root (all unused), *not* the files in those three subdirectories. I apologize for not being clearer, and I hope I didn't confuse anybody. Sorry about that.

Apparently, I haven't yet exceeded my quota of silly spookiness. So here's some more:

Appendix I: Cartoon Craziness

In the fifth paragraph of this article, I mentioned "Rabbit Season, Duck Season, or even Elmer Season". Boy, have I cot a treat for you if you *didn't* recognize that quote. It refers to a 1951 Warner Brothers cartoon called *Rabbit Fire*, written by Michael Maltese and directed by Chuck Jones. I'm not going to say anything more about it, but I've included a link to it below. If you like cartoons at all, I'm sure you'll enjoy it. (Note: This video doesn't start by itself, and you might have to scroll your screen down a bit before you can see the arrow

shaped "start" icon).

http://www.supercartoons.net/cartoon/655/rabbit-fire.html

As Monty Python once said; "And now for something completely the same":

Bugs Bunny Meets Frankenstein

This reference will require a trip into the deep, dark, twisted recesses of my subconscious mind. I vaguely remember a cartoon where Bugs created a monster, which then turned on him and beat him up, leaving him reciting "Mary had a little lamb" in a damaged state, along with Porky Pig. In actual fact, this turned out to be a "mixed memory", created in the vast uncharted depths of my wacky brain from two completely different sources. The Bugs part came from one cartoon, the Porky part from another; and thanks to Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, I've now located both of them.

The Bugs part is *Dr. Devil and Mr. Hare*, a 1964 Warner Brothers cartoon written by John Dunn and directed by Robert McKimson. (Note to trivia buffs: This is said to be the final Bugs Bunny cartoon in

the Merrie Melodies series). It also features the Tasmanian Devil. Unfortunately, I *have* to ruin the end. (That's mighty *evil* of me, isn't it). So I won't tell you anything else about the body of this cartoon, except to tease you by mentioning an unusual incident: In one scene, Taz actually puts one over on Bugs for a change.

Now to spoil the ending: Bugs, disguised as a surgeon, tricks Taz into assisting him in an operation. (Actually performed off screen on the right). Finally, he says "He'll live", and prances joyfully off screen to the left. Then, a huge hand reaches out from the right, and drags Taz off screen. Sounds of mayhem ensue, along with much scenery shaking; and then the monster appears, lumbering across the screen and off to the left. We hear Bugs yelling "Not me, Frankie" and "No" several times, amid further sound effects and scenery shaking. Finally, Bugs staggers back on screen, where he delivers his closing line, the classic "Is there a Doctor in the house?" Here's a link:

http://www.ulozto.net/live/xa9SeWm/bugs-bunny-dr-

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devil-and-mr-hare-1964-avi

That brings us to the Porky part. It's really *Drip-Along Daffy*, a 1951 Warner Brothers cartoon written by Michael Maltese and directed by Chuck Jones. In it, Daffy Duck plays a "Western-Type Hero", and Porky Pig plays his "Comedy Relief" sidekick. When Daffy tries to clean up a "Lawless Western Town", though, Porky turns out to be the one who defeats the villain (Nasty Canasta) and saves the day. So Daffy gets to clean up that "one-horse town" in another way. The "Mary had a little lamb" bit *is* in there, but it involves Nasty, Daffy and Porky, *not* Frankie, Bugs and Porky. Here's a link:

http://www.supercartoons.net/cartoon/645/drip-along-daffy.html

We'll close out this trip to the Land of Lunacy with an unrealized "dream" of mine: It's a cartoon game show called Family Fudd. (I *love* silly word play). The host is Elmer Fudd, of course. The team from the "Good" side of the Warner Brothers Family would be Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Porky Pig, Foghorn Leghorn, and Granny (maybe with Tweety

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on her shoulder). Rooting for them in the audience could be the Road Runner, Petunia Pig, and Speedy Gonzales. The "Bad" team would be Yosemite Sam, the Tasmanian Devil, Wile E. Coyote (he *does* talk in those cartoons where he goes up against Bugs Bunny), Sylvester the cat, and Pepe Le Pew. (He's funny; but basically, he's a stalker. So he's *bad*). In the audience, Marvin the Martian, Gossamer (the

big, red, hairy monster from the "Bugs vs. Evil Scientist" cartoons), and possibly the Evil Scientist himself.

Note to anybody out there who might have Warner Brothers connections: If you were to "steal" this idea and run with it, I *wouldn't* complain. (Just give me a little bit of on-screen credit, please). Anyway, for now, we're done. See you next month. ⌨

GET SMART! *

Bob Woods, Webmaster, UCHUG (Under the Computer Hood UG), CA
Newsletter: DriveLight (www.uchug.org) webmasters (at) uchug.org
Would you believe that you could become a smart phone junkie?

A couple of weeks ago we had a phone call from my son seeking help with setting up his first Android Smart Phone. My wife and I have been using one for about six months so have already gone through much of the learning curve. We are using the non-contract provider Straight Talk and a ZTE Merit 990 phone. The Straight Talk service is half the cost per month as

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* Read more about Get Smart, Maxwell Smart (Don Adams), and the original smart phone, aka shoe phone, circa 1965 (*http://nyti.ms/16UVFU7*) – UCHUG Editor.

compared to a contract service and there is unlimited data, texting and phone calls. The only down side is the phone cost is not subsidized through a contract so you will be paying whatever the going cost is for the model you choose. But, you will quickly recoup that cost in relation to the much higher cost of a contract service.

Anyway, it got me thinking about how much we had learned about setting up and using the Smart Phone. Remember, the phones are small computers. They have a CPU, memory (RAM, ROM and an SD Card slot for external memory); displays that are touch screens, operating systems and applications. Learning to use and manage them takes a bit of time and effort as the manuals that come with them do not give you much insight as to how this is done. So here is some of what the first time user will be faced with on an Android based Smart Phone. Note - I am not going to recommend a particular phone as there are many choices available with plenty of reviews to back them up. Basically the choices have to do mainly with individual preferences and what you're

willing to spend.

For a fully interactive tutorial of Android go to: *http://tracfone.deviceanywhere.com/straighttalk/home.seam?custId=STZEZ990G&locale=en_US < http://bit.ly/Z6hRWC >*

The tutorial uses the phone I have (ZTE Merit 990G), but should be pretty close to what you will encounter on most Android phones.

No matter which version of Android is installed on the phone you choose the interface was designed for the touch screen. It responds to a tap to select an item or double tap to launch an app. Swiping a finger across the screen left to right, right to left, up and down will scroll in the direction of the swipe. Touch and drag will move an item or, in the case of text, select all between starting and stopping points. Touch and hold will usually bring up a popup menu of actions to take.

Most phones have accelerometers to see the orientation of the phone. When using the on screen keyboard it is really nice to turn the phone sideways to get a wider screen and more spread out keyboard.

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Also, if the screen does not respond to the turn or goes dark a light shake of the phone it will wake it up to the action. You will quickly get used to using the screen.

After you turn on the phone and unlock it the first screen you will see is the home page. The home page is the Android equivalent of the Windows desktop. Most phones have home pages that are a few screens wide. To move between them you swipe your finger across the screen to the right or left. You will find some icons or small control panels on most screens. At the top right of the home screen you will see status icons showing time, battery level, signal strength for Wi-Fi and provider signals (2G/3G/4G), Bluetooth (if turned on) and GPS (if turned on). On the left top will be notify icons for when you get a text message, email, or voicemail message or other items such as application updates. If a notify icon shows up you can touch the notify area and drag down to open a drop down menu. At this point you can touch the item to open it or clear the box by touching the clear button. At the bottom center of the

screen there should be an icon that will take you to the main screen showing all of your installed applications (apps). On my phone it looks like a square of tiny dots. When your phone is new, all of the apps you see come hardwired to the Android OS and cannot be uninstalled. I highly recommend that you do not update any of the apps that you do not use. When an app is updated it takes more internal phone memory than the previous version. The built in apps must reside in the phones internal memory. You will find that not using up all of your phones free internal memory will be a constant challenge (more on that later). To put the icon of often used apps on the desktop just touch and hold the icon. A copy of the icon will be put on your home page. As the home page fills with icons or you want to group icons on different pages just touch and hold the icon until it changes size and then drag it to the bottom corner to the right to move it to a screen to the right, left for left. You can also delete an icon by dragging it to the trashcan in the middle. It will not delete the app, just delete the icon from the home pages. I

found that if you have large fingers you will get the best result moving icons with your little finger.

Many phones will have on screen buttons at the bottom or actual buttons at the bottom of the phone below the screen. The button with the house symbol will take you from an app directly to the home screen. The one with a ¾ round circle with an arrow at one end will take you back one screen. The button with a symbol that looks like lines of text or bars will open a menu box with functions appropriate to the active screen.

On one of the home screens you will have an icon that looks like a gear. That is the settings icon. It is the Android equivalent of the Windows Control Panel. It takes you to a menu of utilities and control panels for the various phone functions. You will want to take a few minutes looking around in here to familiarize yourself with this area.

The Contacts icon is what you touch when setting up your contacts. You enter names, phone numbers, email addresses, street addresses and any other info you want to add. Caution, when you put in phone

numbers for your contacts, always include the "1" and area code. Make sure you do this even if the phone number is in your own area code. When you make a phone call or send a text message to someone in your area code the "1" and area code portion will be ignored. However, when you respond to a text message that has been sent to you the messaging system needs the "1" and area code for your response. Without them you will get an illegal error code from the messaging system and the reply will not be sent. While in Contacts touch the extra menu items button (at the bottom of the screen phone and looks like lines of text). Select the Import/Export and export your contacts to the SD card. Then if you lose your contacts you can import them back in. There is also an app that will assist you in storing your contacts in your Google account.

When you are ready to add apps to your phone you will want to use the Google Playstore. There will be a Google Playstore icon on one of your home screens that will take you there. During the initial phone setup you will have created an account with

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Google that identifies what phone you have. The Playstore is tied to your account so will indicate to you if an app you are looking at is compatible with your phone and will not install anything that is not compatible. During the app installation there will be a checkbox for allowing automatic updates of the free or purchased application. This choice can be changed at a later time, but only through the phone connecting to the Playstore. If you log onto the Playstore from a PC the checkbox for changing the update selection will not show.

Most phones have slots for micro secure digital or some other type of digital memory. When you add memory you might be thinking that you will never run out of memory. Well, there is internal phone memory that is a fixed part of the phone and there is external memory. For this discussion we will call external memory the SD card. You cannot move any of the built in apps from phone memory to the SD card. Any extra apps you add to the phone install to phone memory by default. Most apps will require cache memory to function which is stored in phone

memory. Also, text messages, documents, and pictures taken from the built in camera or saved from other sources will go into phone memory. So you may have a 16 or 32 GB SD card installed, but you will still have the internal phone memory as your biggest limitation.

So you may ask, what do you use SD memory for if everything wants to natively store to phone memory? After installation, some of the added apps can be moved from phone memory to the SD card. Others will require residing in phone memory and will not move. I have found that an app called "AppMgr" (also known as App 2 SD) by Sam Lu will help to quickly determine if an app will move from phone to SD and easily complete the action. It also has the added benefit of clearing cache files for all apps with one click, a job that would otherwise take opening each app in the built in Android Application Manager. It also shows you at a glance what apps are installed in which memory and how much internal phone memory if free for use. Another app called "Send to SD" by Denis Nelubin will help you to

quickly send pictures and documents to a folder in your SD card by adding a SD Card item to the Share menu. The Share menu is accessed by touching the extra menu items button that looks like lines of text at the bottom of the screen or physical button at the bottom of the phone.

Most versions of Android have a built in file manager app called Filer. You will find it grouped in with the Apps when you touch the Apps main screen icon. Filer is kind of limited as it only allows you to see what the developers thought was safe. Kind of like Windows Explorer at its default setting of not allowing you to see system files. For viewing directories and file management I like to use "ES File Explorer" by ES APP Group. It has no restrictions and many nice features. I used it to create a folder on the SD card for moving pictures from my phone memory to the SD card using the Share menu item "SD Card" created by the "Send to SD" app.

For keeping the bad guys at bay I installed the Avast! Antivirus app located in the Playstore. Avast has the best ratings for protecting Android devices and is free.

Other apps that we have found to be extremely useful are:

SwiftKey Keyboard by SwiftKey – Replaces your Android dumb keyboard with a keyboard that learns your writing style and makes auto corrections and saves typing by allowing you to select words as you type. It is spooky how it quickly gets to know what you want to write. After the trial period the free version does not give you guesses to select word insert. We paid out the $3.99 for the Pro version because we found the word insert to really save time.

Split N Tip by Handy Apps – This free tip calculator app not only calculates tips quickly and easily but also helps to split the bill between any number of people.

Wi-Fi___33 Analyzer by Farproc - Turns your android phone into a Wi-Fi analyzer!! Shows the Wi-Fi channels around you. Shows signal strengths and info for wireless routers within range. Helps you to find a less crowded channel

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for your wireless router.

Epson iPrint by Seiko Epson Corp – Easily find your wireless or networked Epson printer and print to it from your phone. You can also scan documents or photos to your phone. If you do not have an Epson printer you should be able to find other similar apps for your printer brand.

Barcode Scanner by Zxing Team – This free app scans barcodes on products then looks up prices and reviews. You can also scan Data Matrix and QR Codes containing URLs, contact info, etc. Also share your contacts, apps, and bookmarks via QR Code

iHeartRadio by Clear Channel Digital - iHeartRadio offers free music in an all-in-one, digital internet radio service that lets you find more than 1,500 live radio stations. With the free music app for Android, create commercial-free, all-music Custom Stations featuring songs from the artist you select and similar music. We especially like listening to talk radio shows.

SugarSync by SugarSync, Inc. - SugarSync is the easiest and most advanced way to sync, share, as

well as search and access all of your files – documents, photos, videos and music. SugarSync for Android puts all of your files from across all of your computers right at your fingertips, making you more productive when you're on the go.

My phone came with 512 MB of internal phone memory. The OS and pre-installed apps take up 350 MB leaving me 162 MB free for my installed apps and contacts. Updates to pre-installed apps also take up internal memory. So with all the stuff and apps that I have loaded I am left with 32 MB of phone memory free. Not a whole lot, but I am managing it. My son had to one up the Old Man with a more current Smart Phone that came with 1 GB internal memory. So I am envious as he has yet to get the dreaded "Out of Memory" warning that I get if not diligent with keeping everything clean. Oh well, maybe on my next phone…

If you have not used a Smart Phone before you will be delighted and amazed at just what you can do with them.

PS from his better half - With this wonderful article

Bob forgot to mention the fact that you have Google, Google maps, and Google navigation readily available on these phones. Even if you don't have the GPS active the phone will triangulate your location on Google maps from nearby cell towers. By the by, I use the voice recognition on my phone for quick texts and emails. After six months I'm a smart phone junkie!

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Review: Goodnight iPad

Judy Taylour, President, SCV Computer Club, CA
(www.scvpcg.org) scvjudy (at) gmail.com

A Parody for the next generation and a modern bedtime story

I imagine many of you read Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown to your children as well as your grandchildren….over and over again.

You will want to get a copy of Goodnight iPad to renew the pleasure you had in reading the original book, but this one is a hoot.

The book begins with a Blue Rider Press License Agreement that covers all of the copyright information, etc. There's a notation that says "Don't bother reading this. No one does. Just scroll down to the bottom of the page and click." You have the choice to click on *I have read the License Agreement Terms and Conditions – I AGREE* or *I have not read the License Agreement Terms and Conditions – I AGREE anyway.* Don't most of us just click on the EULA without reading to the bottom and finding we have just agreed to having our e-mail addresses given to 3rd party partners and everyone else in the whole free world.

This book is for the hopelessly plugged in.

iPads, Doom, eReaders, Angry Birds, a huge LCD Wi-Fi HDTV, Facebook, e-mails, tweets and more

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are all going on and a grumpy Grammy is trying to sleep.

You remember how the original book goes: Goodnight room, red balloon, etc. as they go through the nighttime ritual of going to sleep. Much to her family's dismay this is what happens in this book until only one member of the family is not asleep but listening to Grammy read Goodnight Moon.
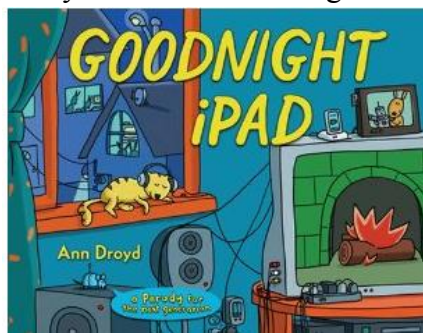
The book will make you smile and the illustrations are classic. I asked my 14- and 12-year old grandsons (hopelessly plugged in) if they remembered the original Goodnight Moon – they both did. The book made them smile too but, of course, they didn't want things to be unplugged since they can't imagine life without their Xbox', headsets and games.

Ann Droyd is the pseudonym for an IRA/Children's Choices winner who has written and illustrated more than 25 books for young readers. She has been trying to unplug for at least 15 years. "In Goodnight iPad," she says, "I sing the praises of powering down, at least for one night, in hopes I might convince myself to do the same."

Perhaps we could power down for one night, too.

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Goodnight iPad
Ann Droyd <*www.anndroyd.com*> (you will be redirected)
Blue Rider Press, a member of Penguin Group (USA) Inc., NY
$14.95 US; $17.50 CAN
$10.17 at Amazon

SIG News

LUNICS (Linux/Unix)
Andreas Meyer (lunics@acgnj.org)
http://www.acgnj.org/groups/lunics.html

LUNICS is a group for those who share an interest in Unix and similar operating systems. While we do quite a bit with Linux, we've also been known to discuss Solaris and BSD as well. Recent meetings have followed a Random Access format. See our web page for further information. (We meet on the first Monday of each month, at 8:00 PM). ⌨

Main Meeting
Evan Williams (president@acgnj.org)
http://www.acgnj.org/groups/mainmeet.html

We meet on the first Friday of the month, at 8:00 PM. Each December, this meeting includes our Annual Business Meeting and Officer Elections. *No* meetings in July or August. ⌨

Layman's Forum
Matt Skoda (som359@gmail.com)
http://www.acgnj.org/groups/laymans.html

This SIG discusses issues of interest to novice users or those planning to get started in computing. Watch our Web page for updates and announcements. We meet at the same time as the Hardware Workshop. (On the second Monday of the month, at 8:00 PM). *No* meetings in July and August. ⌨

Hardware Workshop
Mike Reagan (hardware@acgnj.org)

This group is dedicated to repairing, refurbishing and/or recycling older computers. Ten people attended the first meeting, so there is still a market for this type of event. Although we looked at some of the older equipment stored in he back room, most of our time was spent in talking about ast experiences and planning for the future. Hopefully, we can establish a viable long-term schedule of projects, and keep the interest of those who attended this inaugural meeting. If you have a hardware problem, bring it in and we can all help fix or demolish it. (No guarantees either way.) We meet at the same time as the Layman's Forum. (On the second Monday of each month, at 8:00 PM). ⌨

Java
Mike Redlich (mike@redlich.net)
http://www.redlich.net/javasig/javasig.html

This SIG covers beginner, intermediate, and advanced level Java programming. Primary focus is on developing useful/practical applets and applications. (We meet on the second Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM). ⌨

Mobile Devices
Brenda Bell (mobdevsig@acgnj.org)

The Mobile Devices SIG focuses largely on current-generation cellphones and smart phones (such as Blackberry, Android, iPhone) which bridge the gap between basic cell phones and traditional computers, and how they can help you manage and organize your life. Our membership ranges from those who have recently acquired their first, basic cellphone to those who develop applications for today's modern smart phones, iPods, and ultra-portable computers. While we expect to spend much of our time investigating the built-in features and specialized applications available to modern smart phones, if you bring your basic (or multimedia) cell phone, iPod, or other mobile device with questions on how to use it, where to find applications, or what features they have, we are always happy to help! Meet and greet and plan where this event goes. Bring all your ideas, PDAs, fancy phones, etc. (We meet on the second Wednesday of alternate months (we get the even ones), at 7:30PM). ⌨

WebDev
Evan Williams (webdev@acgnj.org)

This SIG is an open forum for all Website Development techniques and technologies, to encourage study and development of web sites of all kinds. All languages will be considered and examined. The current project is a CMS for the club. Anyone interested in starting a new project, come to the meeting and announce/explain. Provide as much detail as possible. WebDev should be an all-encompassing development and examination forum for all issues, applications, OS, languages and systems one can use to build Websites. We currently

have two web development language SIGs: .NET and Java; but other languages and OS need to be investigated, examined and tested; Windows, Linux, UNIX, DEC, Vax, HP etc. Intel-PC, Motorola - MAC etc. (We meet on the second Wednesday of alternate months (we get the odd ones), at 7:30 PM). 🖳

Investment Software
Jim Cooper (jim@thecoopers.org)
http://www.acgnj.org/groups/sig_investment.html

The Investment SIG continues with presentations on how to use analysis programs TC2000 and TCNet. Large charts are presented on our pull down screen and illustrate the application of computer scans and formulas to find stocks for profitable investments. Technical analysis determines buy points, sell points and projected moves. Technical analysis can also be used on fundamentals such as earnings, sales growth, etc. We're no longer focusing on just Telechart. If you are using (or interested in) Tradestation, eSignal, VectorVest, or just in learning how to select and use charting and technical analysis, come join us!! (We meet on the second Thursday of the month, at 8 PM). 🖳

NJ Gamers
Gregg McCarthy (greggmajestic@gmail.com)
http://www.NJGamers.com
www.lanparty.com

The Friday Night Frag starts at 6:00 PM on the second Friday of each month, and keeps going until 12 Noon on Saturday - 18 hours for 5 bucks!
BYOC - Bring your own computer.
BYOF - Bring your own food.
And if you don't like sitting on metal folding chairs... BYO chair! 🖳

Web Browser (Formerly **Firefox**)
David McRitchie (firefox@acgnj.org).

This SIG is an open forum for all Firefox and Mozilla techniques and technologies, to encourage study and development of web sites of all kinds. All browsers will be considered and examined. All members and guests are invited to check out the design concepts and voice their opinion. (We meet on the third Monday of each month, at 7:30 PM). 🖳

C/C++ Programming
Bruce Arnold (barnold@ieee.org)
http://acgnj.barnold.us/index.html

This is a forum for discussion of programming in general, beginning and intermediate level C, C++, C-Win programming, hardware, algorithms, and operating systems. We demonstrate real programming in a non-intimidating way, presenting complete code for working programs in 3-5 sheets of paper. (We meet on the third Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM). *No* meetings in July or August. 🖳
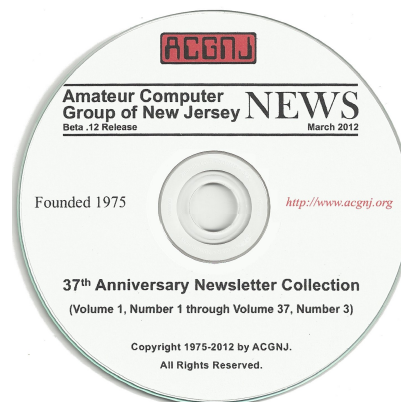
Window Pains
John Raff (jraff@comcast.net)
http://www.acgnj.org/groups/winpains.html

Intended to provide members with Windows oriented discussions, Microsoft and Linux style. Directed to more technological level of attendee, but newbies are welcomed. (We meet on the third Friday of the month at 8:00 PM). *No* meetings in July or August. 🖳

37th Anniversary Newsletter CD Now On Sale

Beta .12 Release.

$8.00, including postage.

($7.00 if you pick up a copy at a meeting).

Get yours today!

Back Issues *Still* Needed

Our collection remains incomplete. Below is a list of missing newsletters. Anyone who lends us one of these (or supplies a good clear copy) will receive the next CD as our thanks.

1975: #2 and #3 (dates uncertain).
1976: January.
1984: August.
1985: June, July, August, September. 🖳

Guru Corner

If you need help with any of the technologies listed below, you can call on the person listed. Please be considerate and call before 10 PM.

Software

HTML	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410
	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385
ColdFusion	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385
CSS	Frank Warren	908-756-1681
	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385
Java	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410
C++	Bruce Arnold	908-735-7898
	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410
ASP	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410
Perl	John Raff	973-560-9070
	Frank Warren	908-756-1681
XML	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410
Genealogy	Frank Warren	908-756-1681
Home Automation	Frank Warren	908-756-1681

Operating Systems

Windows 3.1	Ted Martin	732-636-1942

ACGNJ T-Shirts For Sale

(Front)

(Back)

L, XL: $15.00
M: 2 for $15.00
bob.hawes (at) acgnj.org

ACGNJ MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Sign up online at *www.acgnj.org/membershipApplication.html* and pay dues with PayPal.

Dues	US/CANADA		STUDENT	SENIOR CITIZEN (Over 65)
1 Year	$25		$20	$20
2 Years	$40			
3 Years	$55			$45

Mail this application and your check to:

AMATEUR COMPUTER GROUP OF NEW JERSEY, INC., P.O. BOX 135, SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ 07076

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Address Change

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address _____ E-Mail _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ URL _____

What topics would you like to see covered at club meetings? _____

Other Local Computer Groups

Princeton Macintosh User Group: 7:15 pm 2nd Tuesday, Jadwin Hall, A-10, Washington Rd, Princeton, (609) 252-1163, *www.pmug-nj.org*	**Linux Users Group in Princeton**: 7 pm, 2nd Wednesday, Lawrence Branch Mercer Library, Rt#1 & Darrah Lane, Lawrence NJ *http://www.lugip.org*	**New York PC**: 3rd Thurs, 7 pm, PS 41, 116 W 11th St. For info call hotline, (212) 533-NYPC, *http://www.nypc.org*
Computer Education Society of Philadelphia: Meetings & Workshops at Jem Electronics, 6622 Castor Ave, Philadelphia PA. *www.cesop.org/*	**Brookdale Computer Users Group**: 7 pm, 3rd Friday, Brookdale Community College, Bldg MAS Rm 100, Lincroft NJ. (732)-739-9633. *www.bcug.com*	**NJ Macintosh User Group**: 8 pm, 3rd Tuesday, Allwood Branch Library, Lyall Rd, Clifton NJ. (201) 893-5274 *http://www.njmug.org*.
PC User Group of So. Jersey: 2nd Mon., 7 pm, Trinity Presb. Church, 499 Rt 70 E, Cherry Hill, NJ. L. Horn, (856) 983-5360	**Hunterdon Computer Club**: 8:30 am, 3rd Sat, Hunterdon Medical Center, Rt 31, Flemington NJ. *www.hunterdoncomputerclub.org*, (908) 995-4042.	**NY Amateur Computer Group**: 2nd Thurs, 7 pm, Rm 806 Silver Bldg, NYU, 32 Waverly Pl, NYC. *http://www.nyacc.org*
Morris Micro Computer Club: 7 pm 2nd Thurs., Morris County Library, Hanover Ave, Morristown NJ, (973) 267-0871. *http://www.morrismicro.com*	**Central Jersey Computer Club**: 8 pm, 4th Friday, Rm 74, Armstrong Hall, College of NJ. Rich Williams, (609) 466-0909.	**NJ PC User Group**: 2nd Thurs, Monroe Rm at Wyckoff Public Library, 7 pm. Maureen Shannon, (201) 853-7432, *www.njpcug.org*
Philadelphia Area Computer Society: 3rd Sat, 12 noon Main Meeting, groups 8 am-3 pm. Upper Moreland Middle School, Hatboro PA. (215) 764-6338. *www.pacsnet.org*	**NJ Computer Club**: 6:15 pm, 2nd Wednesday except Jul & Aug, North Branch Reformed Church, 203 Rt 28, Bridgewater NJ. *http://www.njcc.org*	**Princeton PC Users Group**: 2nd Monday, Lawrenceville Library, Alt Rt 1 & Darrah Lane, Lawrenceville, Paul Kurivchack (908) 218-0778, *http://www.ppcug-nj.org*

Classified

apcug

Member of
The Association of
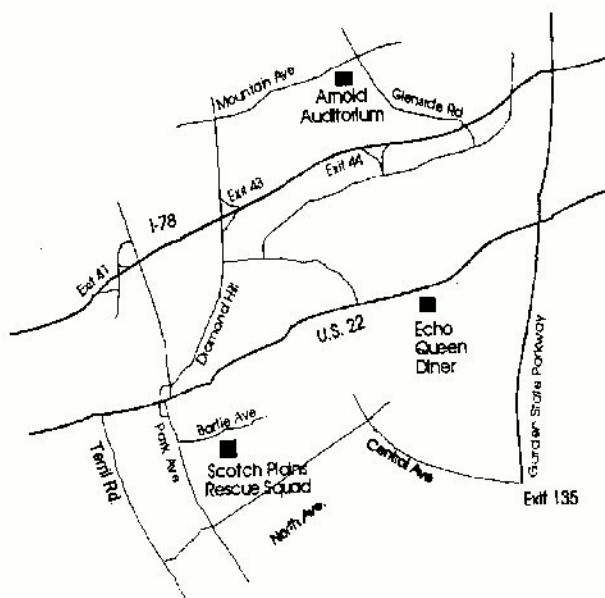Personal Computer User Groups
http://www.apcug.net

Radio and TV Programs

Computer Radio Show, WBAI 99.5 FM, NY, Wed. 8-9 p.m.

Software Review, The Learning Channel, Saturday 10-10:30 p.m.

On Computers, WCTC 1450 AM, New Brunswick, Sunday 1-4 p.m. To ask questions call (800) 677-0874.

PC Talk, Sunday from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., 1210 AM Philadelphia. 1-800-876-WPEN

Directions to Meetings at Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, 1916 Bartle Ave., Scotch Plains NJ

From New York City or Northern New Jersey
Take Route 1&9 or the Garden State Parkway to US 22 Westbound.

From Southern New Jersey
Take Parkway north to Exit 135 (Clark). Stay on left of ramp, follow circle under Parkway. Bear right to Central Avenue; follow to Westfield and under RR overpass. Left at light to North Avenue; follow to light in Fanwood. Right on Martine (which becomes Park Ave). Right on Bartle Ave in middle of shopping district.Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is located on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building — you'll be towed.

From I-78 (either direction)
Take exit 41 (Scotch Plains); follow signs to US 22. Turn right at light at bottom of hill and use overpass to cross Rt. 22. Follow US 22 Westbound directions.

From US 22 Westbound
Exit at Park Avenue, Scotch Plains after McDonalds on the right, diagonally opposite Scotchwood Diner on the left, immediately before the overpass. After exiting, turn left at the light and use overpass to cross US 22. Bear right at bottom of ramp to continue south on Park Avenue. Turn left at the second light (a staggered intersection). Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building — you'll be towed. We meet on the second floor, entering by the door at the right front of the building.

From Western New Jersey
Take US 22 Eastbound to the Park Avenue exit. The exit is about a mile past Terrill Road and immediately past the overpass. Exit onto Park Avenue South and follow the directions above to the Rescue Squad building.